

Message Text

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TO AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK IMMEDIATE

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SUBJECT: QUERY TO DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN BY ICELANDIC
NEWSMAN

STATE DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN ROBERT FUNSETH MADE THE FOLLOW-
ING POINTS IN RESPONSE TO QUESTIONS ABOUT THE ICELAND-U.K.
FISHING DISPUTE, DETERIORATION OF ICELAND-U.K. BILATERAL
RELATIONS AND ICELAND'S PRESENCE IN NATO MADE TO HIM THIS
AFTERNOON BY MR. HALLEORSSON OF THE REYKJAVIK NEWSPAPER
"MORGUNBLADID" BY TELEPHONE FROM REYKJAVIK:

-- ICELAND AND THE UNITED KINGDOM ARE TWO COUNTRIES WITH
WHICH THE UNITED STATES MAINTAINS FRIENDLY RELATIONS. THEY
ARE OUR ALLIES, AND WE CERTAINLY HOPE THAT THEY CAN RESOLVE
THIS QUESTION PEACEFULLY AND QUICKLY.

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-- ICELAND IS A LONG-TIME FRIEND AND NATO ALLY. ITS PARTI-

CIPATION IN THE ATLANTIC ALLIANCE SERVES THE INTERESTS OF
ALL OF THE NATO ALLIES, AND WE VALUE ICELAND'S CONTINUING
MEMBERSHIP IN NATO.

-- WE ARE CONCERNED ABOUT THE DIFFERENCES THAT HAVE ARISEN
BETWEEN ICELAND AND THE UNITED KINGDOM, AND WE HOPE BOTH
WILL RESOLVE EXISTING PROBLEMS QUICKLY AND TO THEIR MUTUAL
SATISFACTION.

-- BUT WE BELIEVE THAT THIS IS A MATTER THAT SHOULD BE
SETTLED BILATERALLY BETWEEN ICELAND AND THE UNITED
KINGDOM.

KISSINGER

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